



VINN & COMPANY, P.C.

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
DATED FEBRUARY 23, 2005

Appln. No. 10/600,944

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May 23, 2005

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated February 23, 2005. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Summary of Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-54 are pending in the application. Applicants acknowledge, with appreciation, that Claims 6-9, 11-23, 27-31, 34, 38-43, 49 and 54 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the recitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims upon which they depend.

Summary of Rejections

Claims 1-5, 10, 24-26, 35-37, 44-48 and 50-53 are rejected as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,615,188 to Hursh et al.

Claim Amendments

The claims have been amended substantially as suggested by the Examiner to obtain allowance in view of the cited reference. Claim 1 has been amended by inclusion of the subject matter of allowable Claim 6, Claim 6 being canceled. The subject matter of Claim 1 has been incorporated into allowable Claims 8, 11, 15, 18 and 22, rendering these claims independent and allowable. The subject matter of allowable Claim 27 has been incorporated into Claim 24, Claim 27 being canceled. Allowable Claims 31 and 34 have been canceled, these claims being replaced by new Claims 55 and 56 respectively. Claim 55 includes the subject matter of claims 24 and 31, and Claim 56 includes the subject matter of claims 24 and 34, making both new claims allowable. The subject matter of allowable Claim 38 has been incorporated into Claim 35, Claim 38 being canceled. The subject matter of Claim 35 has been incorporated into allowable Claims 41 and 42, making

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these claims independent and allowable. The subject matter of allowable Claim 49 along with the subject matter of intervening dependent Claims 48 and 47 has been incorporated into Claim 44, making that claim allowable. Claims 47, 48 and 49 have been canceled. The subject matter of allowable Claim 54 and intervening dependent Claims 53 and 52 has been incorporated into Claim to 50, making this claim allowable. Claims 52-54 have been canceled. Other amendments to dependent claims have been made correcting dependencies in view of canceled claims as well as to ensure proper antecedent basis for all claim recitations.

Applicants contend that the claims as amended place the application in condition for allowance and, therefore, respectfully request that the application be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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